REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-13, 15, 17-24, 26, 28, 29, 31-38, 40, and 43-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,491,631 to Shirane et al. (Shirane), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,449,541 to Goldberg et al. (Goldberg). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejection, and in the interest of expediting allowance of the application, Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 12, and 43 to clarify that "the explanation [of vehicle condition] combines data collected from the diagnostic system with data collected from at least one other vehicle system at the time the diagnostic code is detected" Support for these Claim amendments can be found in the original disclosure at least at page 15, lines 5-9, and Figure 3.

Applicant submits that the Office has failed to show that the cited references teach or suggest all the recited features of Claims 1, 12, and 43.

Claims 1, 12, and 43 as amended recite:

1.   A method comprising:
collecting, on a computer maintained within a vehicle, data from a plurality of systems of the vehicle, wherein the plurality of systems comprises:
a diagnostics system for providing one or more diagnostic codes; and at least one of a vehicle security system, an obstacle detection system, a vehicle media system, a vehicle environment system, or a vehicle sound system, wherein each vehicle system is connected to the computer by a respective interface; and
generating, on the computer, an explanation of a vehicle condition based on at least one said vehicle diagnostics code comprising a set of symbols, *wherein the explanation combines data collected from the diagnostic system with data collected from at least one other vehicle system at the time the one or more diagnostic codes are detected.* (Emphasis added).

12.   A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a computer program having executable instructions for performing a process comprising:
collecting, on a computer maintained within a vehicle, data from a plurality of systems of the vehicle, wherein the plurality of systems comprises:
a diagnostics system providing one or more diagnostic codes, and
at least one of a vehicle security system, an obstacle detection system, a vehicle media system, a vehicle environment system, or a vehicle sound system; and
generating a deciphered an explanation of at least one said vehicle diagnostics code, *wherein the explanation combines data collected from the diagnostics system with data collected from at least one other vehicle system at the time the one or more diagnostic codes detected.* (Emphasis added).

43.   A method comprising:
receiving, on a vehicle based computer, a vehicle diagnostics code from a vehicle diagnostics system, the vehicle diagnostics code including a set of one or more symbols and corresponding to a vehicle condition;
receiving vehicle systems data from one or more of a vehicle security system, an obstacle detection system, a vehicle media

system, a vehicle environment system, or a vehicle sound system; and
retrieving an explanation of the vehicle condition based on the
vehicle diagnostics code; *wherein the explanation combines data
from the vehicle diagnostics system and at least one said other
vehicle system at the time the one or more diagnostic codes
detected.* (Emphasis added).

Shirane 5,491,631

Shirane describes a vehicle diagnostic system which provides fault
diagnosis and classification on the basis of engine type and engine specification.
The vehicle diagnosis system displays the vehicles diagnostic condition and the
procedure for identifying the faulty portion according to the engine type, engine
specification, and the detected fault code. (Column 5, lines 43-55)

Goldberg 6,449,541

Goldberg discloses a vehicle computer system 20 which includes a monitor,
security sensors, a CD player, antenna(s), speakers, GPS receiver, and vehicle
diagnostic component. (Background).

The Office has failed to show that Shirane and Goldberg either alone, or in
combination, teach or suggest "the explanation combines data collected from the
diagnostics system with data collected from at least one other vehicle system at
the time the diagnostic code is detected," as recited in Claims 1, 12, and 43.

In the Office Action, the Office conceded that "Shirane does not teach that
the computer is maintained on the vehicle, or combining data collected from the

vehicle with the diagnostic data." (Office Action pages 2). However, Goldberg does not cure the deficiency of Shirane.

Goldberg describes the vehicle computer 22 is *coupled directly to each component*. (Background, Column 1, line 37 to Column 2, line 17). (Emphasis added). However, Goldberg does not teach or suggest "generating, on the computer, an explanation of a vehicle condition based on at least one said vehicle diagnostics code comprising a set of symbols, wherein the explanation combines data collected from the diagnostic system with data collected from at least one other vehicle system at the time the diagnostic code is detected," as recited by Claim 1 and the similar feature recited in Claims 12 and 43.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 12, and 43 are allowable over Shirane and Goldberg, whether taken alone or in combination, assuming, for the sake of argument that they can be combined in the manner set forth in the Office Action.

Claims 2-11, 13-22, and 44–48 depend from independent Claims 1, 12 and 43 and are allowable at least due to their dependency from Claims 1, 12 and 43 as well as for the features that they recite.

Claims 3, 14, 23, 26, 29, 31-38, and 40-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Shirane and Goldberg in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 006212449 B1 to Wellman et al. (Wellman). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejection, and in the interest of expediting allowance of the application, Applicant has amended independent Claims 23 and 33 for clarification. Support for these Claim amendments can be found in the original disclosure at least at page 2, lines 13-20 and Figure 2.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Office has failed to show that the cited references teach or suggest all the recited features of Claims 23 and 33.

Claims 23 and 33 as amended recite:

23.   A vehicle comprising:
a vehicle diagnostic system;
one or more other vehicle systems; [[and]]
a host computer communicatively coupled to the vehicle diagnostic system and the one or more other systems via respective interfaces, wherein the host computer is configured to:
collect data from a plurality of said vehicle systems; and
generate a deciphered explanation of a vehicle diagnostics code, wherein the deciphered explanation contains a textual explanation of the vehicle diagnostic code and a graphical illustration of a component associated with the vehicle diagnostic code; and
a local client maintained within the vehicle, wherein the local client displays the deciphered explanation. (Emphasis added)

33.   A vehicle-based system comprising:
a diagnostics receiver module receiving a vehicle diagnostics code from a vehicle diagnostics system, the vehicle diagnostics code including a set of one or more symbols and corresponding to a vehicle condition;
one or more interfaces corresponding to one or more other vehicle systems and configured to receive vehicle systems data from a respective vehicle system; [[and]]
means for generating an explanation of the vehicle condition based on the vehicle diagnostics code, wherein the explanation combines data received from the vehicle diagnostics system and at least one said other vehicle system, wherein the explanation contains

a textual explanation of the vehicle condition and a graphical illustration of a component associated with the vehicle condition, and

means for presenting the explanation of the vehicle condition, wherein the presentation means comprises a local client. (Emphasis added)

Wellman 006212449 B1

Wellman describes a diagnostic system for material handling vehicles for diagnosing and repairing such vehicles. Specifically the diagnosis system leads the service personal step by step through diagnosis and repair faults which might occur in a material handling vehicle. When a fault is detected, its corresponding event code is generated and displayed. The event code is then used to access diagnostic information which indicates the portion of the vehicle where the malfunction occurred, the component that failed, and a pictorial depiction of the portion of the vehicle. (Column 2, lines 16-40).

Regarding Claim 23 and 33, the Office has failed to show that Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman either alone or in combination teach or suggest a vehicle comprising "a local client maintained within the vehicle, wherein the local client displays the deciphered explanation." as recited in Claim 23, and a vehicle-based system comprising "means for presenting the explanation of the vehicle condition, wherein the presentation means comprises a local client," as recited in Claim 33.

Wellman describes that "*pictorial diagrams or pictograms* are placed at the various portions of the truck to which a technician is directed by the diagnostic information to clearly identify by the picture, component names and component

designations, the location, arrangement, and interconnections of the components at that portion of the truck 10. (Column 8, lines 28-35). (Emphasis added).

Accordingly, Wellman fails to teach or suggest "the local client displays the generated deciphered explanation" or "means for presenting the explanation of the vehicle condition, wherein the presentation means comprises a local client." Shirane and Goldberg fail to cure the deficiency of Wellman.

Thus, Claims 23 and 33 are allowable over Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman, whether taken alone or in combination, assuming, for the sake of argument that they can be combined in the manner set forth in the Office Action.

Claims 26, 29, 31, 32, 34-38, and 40-41 depend from independent Claims 23 and 33, respectively, and are allowable by virtue of their dependency, as well as for the additional features that they recite.

Regarding Claims 3 and 14, Claim 1 is allowable over Shirane and Goldberg, whether taken alone or in combination. Wellman fails to cure the deficiency of Shirane and Goldberg. Claims 3 and 14 depend from independent Claim 1 and are allowable by virtue of their dependency, as well as for the additional features that they recite.

Claims 5 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Shirane and Goldberg in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,370,454 to Moore (Moore). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1 and 12 are allowable over Shirane and Goldberg, whether taken alone or in combination. Moore fails to cure the deficiency of Shirane and Goldberg. Claims 5 and 16 depend from independent Claims 1 and 12, respectively, and are allowable by virtue of their dependency, as well as for additional features that they recite.

Claims 6 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Shirane and Goldberg in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,701,231 to Borugian (Borugian). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1 and 12 are allowable over Shirane and Goldberg, whether taken alone or in combination. Borugian fails to cure the deficiency of Shirane and Goldberg. Claims 6 and 17 depend from independent Claims 1 and 12, respectfully, and are allowable by virtue of their dependency, as well as for additional features that they recite.

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman, in view of Moore. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 23 is allowable over Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman whether taken alone or in combination. Moore fails to cure the deficiency of Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman. Claim 27 depends from independent Claim 23 and is allowable by virtue of its dependency, as well as for the additional features that it recites.

Claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman in view of Borugian. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 23 is allowable over Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman whether taken alone or in combination. Borugian fails to cure the deficiency of Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman. Claim 28 depends from independent Claim 23 and is allowable by virtue of its dependency, as well as for the additional features that it recites.

Claims 30 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman in view of U.S. Patent No. 006278919 B1 to Hwang et al. (Hwang). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 23 and 33 are allowable over Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman whether taken alone or in combination. Hwang fails to cure the deficiency of Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman. Claims 30 and 39 depend from independent Claims 23 and 33, respectfully, and are allowable by virtue of their dependency, as well as for the additional features that they recite.

Claim 42 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,836,238 to Orr et al. (Orr). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 33 is allowable over Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman whether taken alone or in combination. Orr fails to cure the deficiency of Shirane, Goldberg, and Wellman. Claim 42 depends from independent Claim 33 and is allowable by virtue of its dependency, as well as for the additional features that it recites.
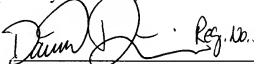
Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not render the claimed subject matter obvious. For all of these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the §103(a) rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

<u>**CONCLUSION**</u>

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1–23, and 26-48 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter remain unresolved, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 3/6/08

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